

300 old sites into the new system, and moved from an author-centric to a user-centric model. The new model supports a single look and feel, with centralized management of design and devolved ownership and managed content. We now have a single repository of content areas but deliver different views of that content to different broad audiences. Finally, we are using that content to feed new portal developments which will enable true personalization and application integration. And so, no doubt, the story will continue....

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Online

**Hosted by Aberystwyth Online
User Group (AberOLUG) and co-
ordinated by Joy Cadwallader,
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Please send your submissions for
the next edition to jrc@aber.ac.uk**

Blackwell

(<http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/>)
Blackwell Publishing has launched a new open access journals service for peer-reviewed articles. The service, Online Open, will be trialled for participating journals until the end of 2006. Authors can take an option to pay for online access to all via the Blackwell Synergy journals platform.

EBSCO (<http://www.ebsco.com>)

Recent acquisitions for EBSCO include SPORTDiscus from the Sport Information Resource Centre, a not-for-profit organization based in Ontario, Canada, and HealthGate's The Natural

Pharmacist. SPORTDiscus is used globally for sports research by academic and medical libraries. Also, from the Natural Pharmacist acquisition, EBSCO have launched two full-text complementary and alternative medicine databases, Natural & Alternative Treatments™ (NAT) and Evidence-Based Complementary Medicine™ (EBCM).

Further EBSCO launches include Old Testament Abstracts Online and GLBT Life with Full Text. Previously available only in print or CD-ROM, Old Testament Abstracts Online contains indexing and abstracts from more than 450 journals in religious studies and associated subjects going back to 1978. The product has become available through a partnership with the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) and the Catholic Biblical Association. A full-text component has been added to GLBT Life, an existing online bibliographic database provided by EBSCO covering Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender issues. Over 400 periodicals, books and news sources are indexed and abstracted, together with selected gray literature. Full text is now available for 50 key periodicals and newspapers, and for a selection of monographs.

EDINA (<http://www.edina.ac.uk>)

Digital scans of early Landmark OS paper map sheets are to be offered by EDINA to HE and FE following an agreement with HEFCE. The Historic Mapping Service collection will include, "all available County Series maps at 1:2,500 and 1:10560 scales published between 1843 and 1939; and all available National Grid maps at 1:1,250, 1:2,500 and 1:10560/10,000 scales published from 1945 and before the introduction of the Ordnance Survey's digital Land-Line product".

ProQuest (<http://www.proquest.com/>)

The Modern Languages Association (MLA) module for Literature Online has been launched by ProQuest Information and Learning, of particular use in learning, teaching and research. Millions of MLA International Bibliography records previously available through ProQuest now link to full-text articles in JSTOR and in 150 full-text journals within Literature Online. Amongst a number of integrated services, subscribed users can now cross-search MLA with the Modern Humanities research Association's Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature (ABELL).

ProQuest Information and Learning has announced the addition of 66 medical/science journal titles: 40 from Springer Science and Business Media, 19 from Hodder Arnold Journals and 7 from Mary Ann Liebert. These titles will appear in ProQuest's range of medical databases, including ProQuest Medical Library and ProQuest Health & Medical Complete.

OCLC (<http://www.oclc.org>)

The new administrative service WorldCat Collection Analysis contains comparison and analytical tools for member librarians to discover the age and subject content in their collection, and to compare with other libraries to determine similarity or difference between peer library collections.

Also, see the WorldCat database grow (one record every 10 seconds!) in real time (<http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/grow.htm>).

Ovid (<http://www.ovid.com>)

Ovid has launched the Social Policy and Practice bibliographic database on the SilverPlatter platform, to provide exclusive access to evidence-based social research in such topics as public

and social policy, public health, social care, mental and community health, for academics and social work professionals.

Thomson Gale (<http://www.gale.com/>)

In the new online database The Making of the Modern Economy, Thomson Gale are providing more than 61,000 early books digitally. The collection consists of almost 12 million pages from titles of the period 1460-1850, and 466 pre-1906 serials. Subjects covered include political science, history, sociology and special collections on banking, finance, transportation and manufacturing. Source libraries for the collection include the Goldsmiths Library of Economic Literature at the University of London Library, the Kress Library of Business and Economics at the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration, the Seligman Collection in the Butler Library at Columbia University and the libraries of Yale University.

Poet's Corner is a free resource consisting of biographies, poems and activities for families, students and teachers. A timeline of important landmarks in the history of poetry is also included.

Thomson Scientific

(<http://www.scientific.thomson.com>)

The ISI Web of Knowledge bibliographic database is adding links from bibliographic records to more than 800,000 HighWire Press full-text articles. The HighWire Press free archive contains, "the world's largest repository of free full-text life science articles".

Also, Thomson Scientific have announced that MEDLINE records will become available through the ISI Web of Knowledge, which will entail the addition of nearly 11 million records from over 7,300 different life sciences and

biomedical publications from 1965 onwards.

Internet News

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A brief look at digital images

In this column I will be exploring the world of digital images available online. This is, of course, a vast subject area and more the scope of a book or two, so this will be, of necessity, a rather brief personal exploration.

New Developments

One recent development has been the opening of the New York Public Library's NYPL Digital Gallery, which supplements their existing online image collections with a further 275,000 images. These images are organised into collections and were selected by curators from all divisions of the New York Public Library's four research libraries. Included in the searchable database are prints, illuminated manuscripts, photographs, maps, postcards, cigarette cards, menus, posters, and many other visual materials. One of the interesting things about this collection is not only its breadth of content but the ability to download the images free of charge for personal use. Additional images will be added to the collection with the aim of doubling its size to over 500 000 images over the coming months. This initiative has not been achieved overnight since planning for it commenced in 1999 with the curators selecting images from their collections based on the following criteria – "demand by the public, a desire to highlight particular collecting strengths of the Library, the fragility of original materials whose preservation would be aided by use of digital surrogates, large or ungainly formats

that make materials difficult to handle in person, and interest in giving attention to worthy but little-known materials."

(<http://www.nypl.org/press/digitalgallery.cfm>) The NYPL Digital Gallery can be found at <http://digitalgallery.nypl.org>.

Somewhat closer to home, The British Library has launched its own image collection online. Although this resource is pitched at the commercial image market such as publishers, TV researchers and the like, it is possible to download a 72dpi image for free if it is for personal or school use. The range of images reflects the depth of The British Library's collections (<http://www.imagesonline.bl.uk/britishlibrary/>).

Searching for images with text

This can be a real challenge to a searcher's methodology and approach. Major search engines like Google have a separate image search capability. Google claims to have one billion images indexed and available. It allows the use of Boolean terms and other operators from Google Text Search in the Advanced Image Search page, enabling complex searches to be undertaken.

One of the challenges is that so many images are held within databases, and so form part of the so-called 'invisible web' because they tend to be out of reach of search engine spiders.

An in-depth analysis of the performance of various search engines with reference to image retrieval was conducted by the Technical Advisory Service for Images (TASI) in October 2004. The results are available at <http://www.tasi.ac.uk/resources/searchengines.html>.

Of course, metadata is becoming increasingly important in the consistent presentation of information about images. Whilst Dublin Core elements